

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY  
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS**

301 State House  
(317) 232-9855

**FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

**LS 6701**

**BILL NUMBER:** HB 1109

**DATE PREPARED:** Dec 13, 2000

**BILL AMENDED:**

**SUBJECT:** Speed Limits near Schools.

**FISCAL ANALYST:** Chris Baker

**PHONE NUMBER:** 232-9851

**FUNDS AFFECTED:** ☒ **GENERAL**  
☒ **DEDICATED**  
**FEDERAL**

**IMPACT:** State & Local

**Summary of Legislation:** This bill specifies that, if a local unit of government establishes a speed limit that is imposed in the immediate vicinity of a school when children are present, the speed limit may be in effect only: (1) from one hour before the school day begins at the school until one hour after the school day begins at the school; and (2) from one hour before the school day ends at the school until one hour after the school day ends at the school.

**Effective Date:** July 1, 2001.

**Explanation of State Expenditures:** If a local authority were to establish a speed limit in the immediate vicinity of a school, there would be costs involved for the placement of speed limit signs. This proposal would affect school zones where a speed limit has already been established. If a local authority has a speed limit established in a school zone which extends beyond the time limits specified in this bill, the speed limit signs would need to be replaced.

If the school exists along a state or U.S. highway, the responsibility of replacing speed limit signs would belong to the Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT).

*Background:* If a local authority, through an engineering and traffic investigation, has determined the maximum speed limit is greater or less than reasonable and safe under conditions of a highway or section of a highway, the local authority may declare a reasonable and safe maximum speed limit for that highway.

There are several sizes of signs offered for use in speed limit enforcement. Currently, two types of reflective sheeting are offered: Engineer (E) grade and High Intensity (H.I.) grade. H.I. grade signs are more visible at greater distances than E grade during night driving conditions. Below is a table depicting the cost of signs of various sizes by sheeting type:

Size	Cost: Engineer Grade	Cost: High Intensity Grade
18" x 24"	\$11.50	\$20.16
24" x 30"	\$19.25	\$33.60
36" x 48"	N/A	\$84.96
48" x 60"	\$84.20	\$141.60

This proposal could affect the State Highway Fund, the fund which covers sign construction. The specific impact is indeterminable and would depend on the number of signs replaced.

**Explanation of State Revenues:** Revenues for citations for speeding could decrease if the hours for lower speeds through a school zone decreased. IC 9-21-5-13 states violation of a speed limit is a Class C infraction. Additionally, the statute indicates if the speeding violation occurs in a school zone when children are present, the infraction becomes a Class B.

**Explanation of Local Expenditures:** If a school exists along a county road or city street outside of INDOT jurisdiction, the responsibility of replacing speed limit signs would be the locality in question.

**Explanation of Local Revenues:** Citations of infractions in a school zone may decrease as there would be fewer hours that the lower speed would be enforced.

**State Agencies Affected:** Indiana Department of Transportation; Indiana State Police; Department of Correction (Prison Enterprises Network (PEN) Products).

**Local Agencies Affected:** Localities, Trial courts, local law enforcement agencies.

**Information Sources:** Pam Powell, PEN Products, (317) 388-8580; Julie Welp, Indiana Department of Transportation, (317)-232-5234.